

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (cancelled)

2. (currently amended) An ink cartridge refilling station comprising:

a receptacle for receiving an ink cartridge;

a supply of ink;

a refilling mechanism for automatically adding ink to said ink cartridge from said supply of ink; and

~~The refilling station of claim 1, further comprising a user interface for controlling said adding of ink to said ink cartridge.~~

3. (original) The refilling station of claim 2, wherein said user interface comprises a touch screen for displaying information and receiving user input.

4. (currently amended) An ink cartridge refilling station comprising:

a receptacle for receiving an ink cartridge;

a supply of ink;

a refilling mechanism for automatically adding ink to said ink cartridge from said supply of ink; and

~~The refilling station of claim 1, further comprising a label reading mechanism for reading an identification label on said ink cartridge.~~

5. (original) The refilling station of claim 4, wherein said label reading mechanism comprises a bar code scanner for reading said label.

6. (original) The refilling station of claim 4, wherein said label reading mechanism comprises a magnetic strip reader for reading said label.

7. (currently amended) An ink cartridge refilling station comprising:
a receptacle for receiving an ink cartridge;
a supply of ink;
a refilling mechanism for automatically adding ink to said ink cartridge from said supply of ink; and

~~The refilling station of claim 1, further comprising a cartridge diagnostic unit for evaluating said cartridge prior to refilling said cartridge to determine to what extent said cartridge can be refilled.~~

8. (original) The refilling station of claim 7, wherein said refilling mechanism operates in response to an evaluation of said cartridge output by said cartridge diagnostic unit.

9. (original) The refilling station of claim 2, further comprising a memory unit for storing information sent and received from said user interface.

10. (currently amended) An ink cartridge refilling station comprising:

a receptacle for receiving an ink cartridge;

a supply of ink;

a refilling mechanism for automatically adding ink to said ink cartridge from said

supply of ink; and

~~The refilling station of claim 1, further comprising a receipt printer.~~

11. (cancelled)

12. (currently amended) The refilling station of ~~claim 1~~ ~~claim 10~~, wherein said supply of ink further comprises a plurality of ink reservoirs each for containing a different ink.

13. (original) The refilling station of claim 12, further comprising different colors of ink in said plurality of ink reservoirs.

14. (original) The refilling station of claim 12, further comprising different qualities of ink in said plurality of ink reservoirs.

15. (currently amended) An ink cartridge comprising:

a reservoir for holding a supply of ink; and

an input port communicating with said reservoir, said port being configured to receive ink from an automated ink refilling station; and

an identification label, wherein said identification label provides information about said cartridge to said refilling station.

16-17. (cancelled)

18. (currently amended) A method of adding ink to an ink cartridge, said method comprising:

placing said ink cartridge in a ink cartridge refilling station; and
adding ink to said ink cartridge with an automated refilling mechanism of said ink cartridge refilling station; and

~~The method of claim 17, further comprising~~ controlling said adding of ink to said ink cartridge with a user interface of said ink cartridge refilling station.

19. (currently amended) A method of adding ink to an ink cartridge, said method comprising:

placing said ink cartridge in a ink cartridge refilling station; and
adding ink to said ink cartridge with an automated refilling mechanism of said ink cartridge refilling station; and

~~The method of claim 17, further comprising~~ reading an identification label on said ink cartridge.

20. (original) The method of claim 19, further comprising associating said identification label with a user profile.

21. (original) The method of claim 19, further comprising using said identification label to identify an ink type for said cartridge.

22. (currently amended) A method of adding ink to an ink cartridge, said method comprising:

placing said ink cartridge in a ink cartridge refilling station; and
adding ink to said ink cartridge with an automated refilling mechanism of said ink cartridge refilling station; and

~~The method of claim 17, further comprising evaluating said ink cartridge with an ink cartridge diagnostic unit of said ink cartridge refilling station, wherein said evaluating is performed prior to said adding ink to said cartridge and assesses a capability of said cartridge to receive ink;~~

wherein said adding ink is performed in accordance with an evaluation resulting from said evaluating said ink cartridge with said diagnostic unit.

23. (original) The method of claim 22, further comprising adding ink of a specific quantity and type to said ink cartridge in accordance with output from said ink cartridge diagnostic unit, an identification label on said ink cartridge, and input from a user interface.

24-28. (cancelled)

29. (currently amended) The method of ~~claim 17~~ ~~claim 22~~, further comprising adding ink from different reservoirs in said ink cartridge refilling station to different reservoirs within said ink cartridge.

30-32. (cancelled)

33. (currently amended) A system of adding ink to an ink cartridge, said system comprising:

means for receiving said ink cartridge in an ink cartridge refilling station;

means for adding ink to said ink cartridge; and

~~The system of claim 31, further comprising~~ means for reading an identification label on said ink cartridge.

34. (original) The system of claim 33, further comprising means for associating said identification label with a user profile.

35. (original) The system of claim 33, further comprising means for using said identification label to identify an ink type for said ink cartridge.

36. (currently amended) A system of adding ink to an ink cartridge, said system comprising:

means for receiving said ink cartridge in an ink cartridge refilling station;

means for adding ink to said ink cartridge; and

~~The system of claim 31, further comprising means for evaluating an ability of the condition of said ink cartridge to receiving additional ink and provide an ink cartridge evaluation prior to adding ink to said ink cartridge.~~

37. (currently amended) The system of ~~claim 31~~ ~~claim 36~~, further comprising means for adding ink of a specific quantity and type to said ink cartridge in accordance with ~~[[an]]~~ said evaluation of said ink cartridge, an identification label on said cartridge, and input from a user.

38-43. (cancelled)

44. (original) A method of adding ink to an ink cartridge, said method comprising:

placing said ink cartridge in a ink cartridge refilling station;
ascertaining information about said ink cartridge; and
if said information about said ink cartridge matches predetermined parameters,
refusing to add ink to said cartridge with an automated refilling mechanism of said ink cartridge refilling station.

45. (original) The method of claim 44, wherein said predetermined parameters include incompatibility, cartridge damage, cartridge warranty and cartridge life.

46. (cancelled)

47. (new) The refilling station of claim 2, wherein said user interface is configured to allow said user to pay for adding ink to said ink cartridge.

48. (new) The refilling station of claim 2, wherein said user interface is configured to allow a user to select a quantity of ink to be added to said ink cartridge.

49. (new) The refilling station of claim 2, wherein said user interface is configured to allow a user to select a quality of ink to be added to said ink cartridge.

50. (new) The refilling station of claim 4, wherein said identification label indicates a make or model of said ink cartridge.

51. (new) The refilling station of claim 4, wherein said identification label indicates compatible ink types for said ink cartridge.

52. (new) The refilling station of claim 4, further comprising a user profile stored in said refilling station, wherein said user profile is associated with a particular ink cartridge as identified by said identification label on said ink cartridge.

53. (new) The refilling station of claim 52, wherein said user profile comprises information for obtaining payment from a user for ink added to said ink cartridge.

54. (new) The refilling station of claim 52, wherein said user profile comprises a history of said ink cartridge.

55. (new) The refilling station of claim 52, wherein said user profile comprises information regarding a printing device in which said ink cartridge is used.

56. (new) The refilling station of claim 10, wherein said receipt printer is configured to print a receipt for payment of ink added to said ink cartridge.

57. (new) The refilling station of claim 10, wherein said receipt printer is configured to print a receipt describing the ink added to said ink cartridge.

58. (new) The refilling station of claim 15, wherein said identification label indicates a make or model of said ink cartridge.

59. (new) The refilling station of claim 15, wherein said identification label indicates compatible ink types for said ink cartridge.

60. (new) An ink cartridge refilling station comprising:
a receptacle for receiving an ink cartridge;
a supply of ink;
a refilling mechanism for automatically adding ink to said ink cartridge from said supply of ink; and

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a locking mechanism for locking said cartridge in said receptacle to prevent premature removal of said cartridge from said receptacle.